

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration



VACCHCS

VA Central California Health Care System

Post Graduate Year One (PGY1)
Pharmacy Residency Program

VA CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
PHARMACY SERVICE (119)
2615 E. CLINTON AVENUE
FRESNO, CA 93

WELCOME



Welcome to the PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program at VA Central California Health Care System (VACCHCS)! Our ASHP-accredited program provides a robust and comprehensive year of training, with learning experiences that span the spectrum of health care management and delivery. We pride ourselves in our ability to tailor our experiences to meet the needs and goals of individual residents. We have a progressive training environment, where pharmacists with a scope of practice may prescribe medications, order laboratory and diagnostic tests, and place consults to other services. Being a mid-sized teaching facility, we offer residents diverse learning opportunities within a close-knit, supportive culture. Our residents appreciate this dynamic, as well as the benefits of practicing within the largest integrated health care system in the nation (check out the TOP 10 Reasons to Work at VA below). One of the best parts of joining the VA is having the opportunity to serve our Veterans. We prepare our residents for a career or further training across settings. With strong leadership support, we have been fortunate to retain many of our residents in a variety of positions. Our facility is located in sunny Fresno, which is the fifth largest city in CA and also an agricultural center for the world. Our residents enjoy the perks of urban living mixed with a small-town vibe, while being centrally located in the heart of CA.

With this booklet, we hope that you enjoy learning more about our residency training, pharmacy services, and organization. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions as you explore our program.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kori E. Malepsy".

Kori E. Malepsy, Residency Program Director

Kori.Malepsy@va.gov

559-241-6490



VA
HEALTH
CARE

Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

TOP 10 REASONS TO WORK AT VA

- The mission to serve America
- Largest integrated health care system in the country
 - Largest provider of advanced clinical training for medical, nursing, and associated health professions in the nation
 - Largest program for advanced clinical pharmacy training, with 272+ programs (PGY1, PGY2, and Fellowship) across the VA system; residents have professional development opportunities on local, regional, and national levels
- Access to cutting-edge technology
- Education support
- Work/life balance
- Exceptional benefits
- Team-based, patient-focused
- Live and work anywhere
 - Pharmacists can be licensed in any state
- Leadership training
- The best patients – Veterans!

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VA CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM (VACCHCS) OVERVIEW

VACCHCS, located in Fresno, California, is a 63-bed acute care, general medical and surgical center with state-of-the-art primary, secondary and tertiary care in major diagnostic and treatment specializations. In addition, a 54-bed Community Living Center (CLC) is located on campus and provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation care. The health care system has 40,000 Veterans enrolled for health care eligibility and serves more than 32,000 Veterans in six counties in the San Joaquin Valley. The six counties include Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Madera, Merced and Mariposa. Three Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) support this wide catchment area, including:

- The Merced CBOC, located 60 miles north of Fresno in downtown Merced, provides primary care, mental health, audiology and eye care to patients from Madera and Merced Counties.
- The Oakhurst CBOC, located 46 miles northeast of Fresno, opened in April 2011. It is near Yosemite National Park and serves Veterans living in the rural foothill areas of Madera and Mariposa Counties.
- The Tulare CBOC, located 46 miles south of Fresno, provides Primary Care, Mental Health, Audiology, and Eye Care to patients. The Tulare CBOC serves patients in Tulare County, which includes the cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville and Veterans residing in Kings County, the home of Naval Air Station, Lemoore, CA.



Fresno Campus

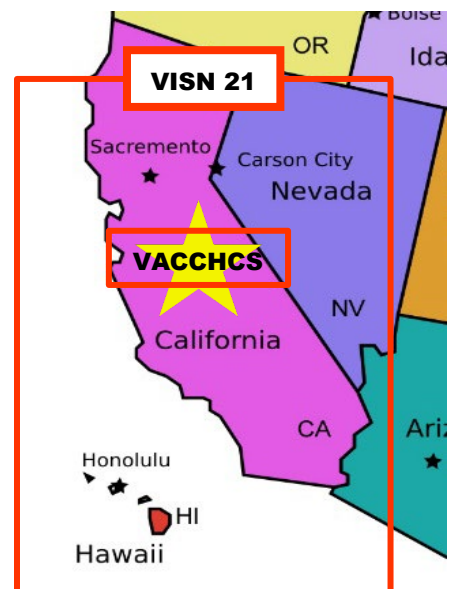
Merced CBOC

Oakhurst CBOC

Tulare CBOC

VACCHCS uses Telehealth services, such as video conferencing, to increase timely access to high quality care. The facility is a part of the VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21), which is one of 18 Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). VISN 21 includes seven VA Medical Centers, nine co-located CLCs, and 41 CBOCs located in Northern and Central California, Nevada, Hawaii, the Philippines and U.S. Territories in the Pacific Basin.

VISN 21 is remarkable in several ways – one of which is its academic affiliations. All seven VISN 21 health care systems have highly successful clinical affiliations with prestigious universities in the areas of medicine, nursing, and allied health professions. VISN 21 hosts the largest number of Centers of Excellence in VHA, receives the most research funding in VHA, and has expansive and collaborative relationships with its Department of Defense partners. VISN 21 is on par nationally with inpatient and outpatient satisfaction measures, and often exceeds the VHA national average. VISN 21 has ranked number 4 among all VISNs for best places to work based on the most recent All Employee Survey. The network is committed to ensuring that Veterans have full access to the highest quality of care, and that patients and staff alike have high levels of satisfaction.



VACCHCS PHARMACY SERVICE OVERVIEW

Mission and Vision: The mission of the VACCHCS Pharmacy Service is to serve America's Veterans by providing timely, accurate, personalized, comprehensive, and innovative pharmaceutical and clinical care in a safe and supportive environment that improves their health and wellbeing. Its vision is to be the pharmaceutical care provider of choice for Veterans. The vision statement includes:

- *We will be an essential component of the patient focused Health Care Team.*
- *We will create a practice environment that fosters education, research, and professional development.*
- *We will advance the use of innovative technologies to ensure consistent, accurate and reliable medication distribution, education and information systems.*
- *We will provide pharmaceutical services during national emergencies, disasters and other events that adversely affect our Veterans.*
- *We will be an employer of choice for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and supportive staff by providing a compassionate, diverse, and progressive work environment.*

Description: The VACCHCS Pharmacy Service consists of over 50 pharmacists, including residents, and 35 pharmacy technician and support staff. The organizational chart includes a Service Chief, three Associate Chiefs designated for Clinical, Inpatient, and Outpatient areas, and program managers and support staff who oversee Clinic Medications, Compounded Sterile Products, Education Programs, Informatics, Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmacogenomics, Procurement, and Medication Safety. Pharmacy staff collaborate with all members of the health care team, patients, and their caregivers to provide care for Veterans.

Providing care for Veterans while, at the same time, educating health professionals, is a core VA mission. The Pharmacy Service is committed to providing quality training to interns and residents, operating under the premise that the best health care is provided in an environment in which the spirit of inquiry and investigation exists in combination with teaching and learning. The service has academic affiliations with eight different schools of pharmacy, with 30-50 interns rotating on site each year for various Introductory and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE and APPE) rotations. In 2020, the pharmacy team was awarded *Fresno APPE Site of the Year* from the University of California, San Francisco, for its dedication to training.

Clinical: The Clinical division of the Pharmacy Service has over 20 Clinical Pharmacy Specialists (CPS) operating as mid-level practitioners functioning under a Scope of Practice (SOP), as well one Clinical Pharmacy Technician who supports clinical initiatives. Having a SOP allows the CPS to provide comprehensive care in a variety of clinical specialty areas including primary care, anticoagulation, mental health, pain management, pulmonary care, infectious diseases, substance use disorders, smoking cessation, and oncology. The CPS also support VA formulary management by ensuring that medication use within the local system remains in line with National cost-effective guidance. Additionally, the CPS are actively involved in VISN21 Pharmacy Benefits Management workgroups and initiatives aimed at improving the health of Veterans and ensuring the appropriate use of medications. Each year, VISN performance metrics and advanced clinical support tools, i.e., dashboards, are developed to achieve these initiatives. The workgroups and metrics are diverse, covering academic detailing, adverse drug event reporting, various clinical specialties (e.g., antimicrobial stewardship, oncology, mental health, pain), cost savings initiatives, and medication safety. According to VA workload measures, the CPS at VACCHCS are among the most productive in the nation, which is a testament of their commitment to Veteran care.

Inpatient: The Inpatient division provides clinical and operational pharmaceutical services to all acute and ambulatory/specialty clinic care areas in the facility. Among the inpatient staff are CPS designated for each rounding Medicine/Surgery team and the Emergency Department, all operating under a SOP, as well as technicians designated for oncology services and dispensing of controlled substances. A CSP Program Manager oversees compounding of sterile preparations and hazardous drugs.

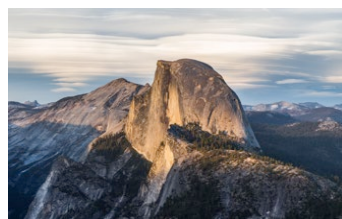
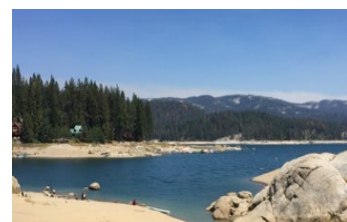
Inpatient operational services are provided 24/7 with CPS and technicians designated for core functions including medication reconciliation and counseling, order verification, drug information, and all drug storage, preparation, and distribution. Operations are supported with unit dose and automated dispensing technology including FastPak and Pyxis. BD Pyxis IV Prep is also being implemented in a newly developed USP-800 compliant IV room to aid in sterile compounding. Inpatient team members also provide investigational drug services and participate in/lead local and VISN Committees such as Code Blue, Nutrition Support, and Wound Care. They play a key role in preparing, implementing, and maintaining inpatient protocols and policies/procedures, and in educating inpatient health care staff.

Outpatient: The Outpatient division provides medications/supplies and consultation services to Veterans on weekdays. Staff collaborate closely with VA and community providers to ensure safe and quality care. Having access to the patient medical record allows them to proactively identify and resolve interventions to optimize therapy and prevent adverse outcomes. ScriptPro technology is utilized to support operations. Among the outpatient team are technicians who specialize in managing all automation and drug procurement for the Pharmacy Service. In Fiscal Year 2020, the Outpatient Pharmacy processed approximately 340,000 prescriptions and counseled over 15,000 patients. Most of these prescriptions, being new, were dispensed locally versus a majority of prescription refills (>70%) were dispensed from the regional VA Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP). In Fiscal Year 2020, the Outpatient Pharmacy dispensed a total of 100,016 prescriptions locally and processed/refilled an additional 586,398 prescriptions for dispensing at CMOP.

Geriatrics/Extended Care: VACCHCS also has a Geriatrics/Extended Care Service, with a team of several pharmacists who provide inpatient care in the Community Living Center (skilled nursing and rehab facility) and outpatient care via Geriatric Primary Care Clinic, Endocrinology and Diabetes Clinics, and Home Based Primary Care.

FRESNO

VACCHCS is located in Fresno, CA, which is in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley. The city has become an economic hub of the area with a growing metropolitan area and population. Surrounding areas support large-scale fresh agricultural production. For those who enjoy the outdoors, there is easy access to national parks such as Yosemite National Park, Kings Canyon National Park, Sequoia National Park, as well as China Peak Mountain Resort.



Images: Pixabay

PGY1 PHARMACY RESIDENCY PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The VACCHCS PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program was established in 2010 and is accredited by ASHP. It is a full-time, temporary appointment with an anticipated duration of one year. Residents are employed with the Federal government and thus are subject to all regulations and requirements of the Federal system. The residency program is designed in accordance with the ASHP Accreditation Standard for Post Graduate Pharmacy Residency Programs. Competency areas include: 1) Patient care; 2) Advancing practice and improving patient care; 3) Leadership and management, and 4) Teaching, education, and dissemination of knowledge.

The purpose of this residency program is to build on Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) education and outcomes to develop pharmacist practitioners with knowledge, skills, and abilities as defined in the educational competency areas, goals, and objectives. Residents who successfully complete this PGY1 residency program will be skilled in diverse patient care, practice management, leadership, and education, and be prepared to provide patient care, seek board certification in pharmacotherapy (i.e., BCPS), and pursue advanced education and training opportunities including PGY2 residency. Residents are a member of the health care team and deliver patient care in ambulatory, acute, and long term care settings. They are actively involved in formulary and medication-use management, medication safety, and systems improvement activities, while serving as educators for patients, pharmacy interns, and other health professionals. Residents also learn how to self-evaluate and incorporate feedback to support continuous professional development.

Summary:

- Residency Program: Full-time
- Duration of Program: 12 months
- Number of Positions: 2
- Residency Start Date: July 1
- Estimated Stipend: \$47,397 per year
- Benefits: Federal health and dental benefits, life insurance available, education and travel allowances, 13 days of paid vacation, 13 days of sick leave, 11 paid federal holidays (residents staff 2 minor holidays)

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Table 1. Outline of Program Structure

Learning Experiences		Duration
First Week	Residency Introduction and Onboarding	One week
Required Core Learning Experiences	Inpatient Pharmacy/IV Orientation	3 weeks
	Outpatient Pharmacy Orientation	2 weeks
	Acute Care Internal Medicine I and II*	5 weeks each (10 weeks total)
	Ambulatory Care I and II*	5 weeks each (10 weeks total)
	Practice Management	5 weeks
Required Longitudinal Learning Experiences* <i>*Begin after orientation rotations are finished</i>	Ambulatory Care	Year-long; one half-day per week
	Leadership Development and Project Management	Year-long; may take up to 7 project days/year (max 3/rotation)
	Major Project	
	Staffing	Year-long; 1 weekend and 1 evening shift every 3 weeks, and 2 minor holidays
	VA Teaching and Precepting Certificate	Year-long
Elective Learning Experiences	Elective opportunities: Academic Detailing, Anticoagulation, Emergency Medicine, Geriatrics, Hematology/Oncology, Infectious Diseases, Informatics, Managed Care, Pain Management, Psychiatric Acute Care, Psychiatric Ambulatory Care	5 weeks each (3 electives total, or 15 weeks elective time total)
Conferences	ASHP Midyear, CSHP, Western States	Approximately 2 weeks total during year

*Acute Care Internal Medicine I and Ambulatory Care I take place in the first half of the residency program; Acute Care Internal Medicine II and Ambulatory Care II take place in the second half of the residency program.

Table 2. Overview of Required Core Learning Experiences

Core Learning Experiences	Experience Includes
Inpatient Pharmacy/IV Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic Medical Record (VISTA/CPRS) orientation, order entry and verification, inpatient automation, dispensing/checking, intravenous products preparation/checking, medication delivery and other inpatient operations
Outpatient Pharmacy Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic Medical Record (VISTA/CPRS) orientation, outpatient/clinic order entry and verification, outpatient automation, dispensing/checking, counseling and other outpatient operations
Acute Care Internal Medicine I and II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute Care Internal Medicine I: General Medicine Units Acute Care Internal Medicine II: Intensive Care Unit Daily multidisciplinary rounds and clinical interventions, pharmacokinetic and anticoagulation monitoring, nutrition support, admission and discharge medication reconciliation, discharge counseling, inpatient consults and multidisciplinary in-services, acute care topic discussions, journal club, patient case presentation
Ambulatory Care I and II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amb. Care I: Primary Care at Fresno Amb. Care II: Primary Care at Fresno/Oakhurst CBOC, Women’s Health Chronic disease state management, outpatient consults and multidisciplinary in-services, ambulatory care topic discussions, journal club, patient case presentation
Practice Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug use criteria or treatment guideline/protocol development, process improvement activities, medication event reporting and follow-up, departmental management topic discussions, facilitation of administrative meetings and tasks

Table 3. Overview of Required Longitudinal Learning Experiences

Longitudinal Learning Experiences	Experience Includes
Ambulatory Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One half-day per week in a clinic selected after orientation rotations Clinic opportunities: Anticoagulation, Benzodiazepine Taper, Clozapine, Hematology/Oncology, Pain Management, Primary Care, Psychiatry, Pulmonary Chronic disease state management with opportunity for ongoing follow-up with patients
Major Residency Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year-long project presented at Western States Conference Manuscript submitted by the end of residency Resident may develop a project or select one from the site Project committee meets weekly or as designated by the team to support project implementation
Project Management and Leadership Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-formulary consult management and adverse drug event reporting Medication use evaluation presented at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and local P&T Committee Facilitating Pharmacy Week, weekly RPD meetings and case discussions with students, P&T Committee activities, and Pharmacotherapy Newsletters Journal clubs and presentations (patient cases, M&M, leadership/preceptor development) Quarterly self-reflections for development planning
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inpatient, one weekend and one evening shift every three weeks, and one major and one minor holiday Residents cover clinical and operational duties
VA Teaching and Precepting Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares residents across VA for future teaching responsibilities with an emphasis on skills required in the precepting of pharmacy trainees Involves asynchronous learning activities, participation in live sessions, and application of teachings via completion of required deliverables

Table 4. Overview of Elective Learning Experiences

Elective Learning Experiences	Experience Includes
Academic Detailing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and learn evidence-based medicine, develop and/or promote educational pieces that include key messages, provide Academic Detailing outreach visits to VA staff, identify and resolve barriers, and socialize new Academic Detailing campaigns based on national and VISN initiatives
Anticoagulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate, monitor and educate patients and families on anticoagulation therapy Assess labs for medication safety and follow-up with patients for adherence/tolerance of anticoagulation therapy Perioperative anticoagulation management and DOAC population management via dashboard
Emergency Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily patient chart reviews and clinical interventions, medication reconciliation and discharge counseling, anticoagulation and pharmacokinetics, ACLS, emergency medicine topic discussions and in-services/presentations
Geriatrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in different clinical settings such as skilled nursing facility, geriatric medicine ambulatory care, home care service, and/or telemedicine Daily patient chart reviews and medication management, pharmacokinetics and nutrition support evaluation, wound care rounds, medication reconciliation and discharge counseling
Hematology/Oncology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment and monitoring plans of various malignancies including solid tumors and hematologic malignancies Chemotherapy teaching, management of chemotherapy toxicities, and delivery of drug information to physicians and nurses Multidisciplinary journal club and presentations
Informatics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate current automation, technology, and pharmacy practice to improve safety and operational efficiency and productivity Apply information systems and technology to improve Veteran care
Infectious Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antimicrobial stewardship review and interdisciplinary treatment rounds with infectious diseases team, participation in ID outpatient clinic management, ID topic discussions, presentations, and in-services
Managed Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of the health care system formulary and performance metrics, formulary initiatives, local and VISN P&T Committee
Pain Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in an interdisciplinary clinic, comprised of a nurse practitioner, psychiatrist, and pharmacist, to manage patients with chronic pain Daily opportunities within patient appointments to practice motivational interviewing and to provide medication counseling Exposure to opioid discontinuation or rotation, non-opioid management, substance abuse, and risk mitigation strategies
Psychiatric Acute Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interdisciplinary rounds with inpatient psychiatry team, exposure to outpatient mental health clinics which may include clozapine clinic, benzodiazepine taper clinic, substance abuse, and/or rural clinic telehealth
Psychiatric Ambulatory Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily treatment and monitoring of mental health, benzodiazepine taper clinic, long acting injectables, and SUD patients through telephone and video clinics Review complex cases and consults with mental health team Participate in interdisciplinary clinic for Veterans that have one or multiple SUD Counsel patients (e.g., naloxone use) and present medication information at SUD Program treatment rounds

APPLICATION QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCESS

Table 5. Outline of Application Qualifications and Process

Applicant Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States Citizenship • Graduation from ACPE accredited School or College of Pharmacy • Pharmacist licensure in any state obtained by Oct 1 of the residency year • Application submitted via PhORCAS
Application Process	<p>Application must be submitted through PhORCAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of Intent • Curriculum Vitae • Three Letters of Recommendation; at least one letter should come from a preceptor from a clinical rotation • Official Transcript
Application Deadlines	Phase I Deadline: January 2
NMS Match Code	188813

GRADUATING RESIDENTS FIRST POSITION ACCEPTED POST-RESIDENCY

<p><u>2022 – 2023</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Medicine Pharmacist, VA Central CA • Pharmacogenomics Pharmacist, VA Central CA 	<p><u>2015 – 2016</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Pharmacist, Kaiser Permanente • Pharmacist, Loma Linda University Health
<p><u>2021 – 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLC/HBPC Pharmacist, VA Sierra Nevada 	<p><u>2014 – 2015</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s Health Pharmacist, VA Central CA • Pharmacoeconomics Pharmacist, VA Central CA
<p><u>2020 – 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hem/Onc Pharmacist, VA Central CA • PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency, University of California San Francisco 	<p><u>2013 – 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticoagulation Pharmacist, VA Central CA • PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency, National Institutes of Health (NIH) •
<p><u>2019 – 2020</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Medicine Pharmacist, VA Central CA • Mental Health Pharmacist, VA Central CA 	<p><u>2012 – 2013</u></p> <p>Inpatient Pharmacist, VA Palo Alto</p>
<p><u>2018 – 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Care Pharmacist, VA Central CA • PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency, VA Palo Alto 	<p><u>2011 – 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient Pharmacist, Johns Hopkins Hospital • PGY2 Pharmacy Outcomes and Health Care Analytics, VISN 21
<p><u>2017 – 2018</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions of Care Pharmacist, VA Central CA • Inpatient Pharmacist, Doctors Medical Center of Modesto 	<p><u>2010 – 2011</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticoagulation Pharmacist, VA Central CA
<p><u>2016 – 2017</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Medicine Pharmacist, VA Central CA • Pain Pharmacist, VA Central CA 	

PROGRAM PRECEPTORS

LISA ADAMS, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, CGP, CPE, CWS, FASCP

Learning experience(s): Geriatrics Elective

Pharmacy school: University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy, WY and Purdue College of Pharmacy, IN

Postgraduate training/experience: Certified Diabetes Educator, Certified Pain Educator, Wound Management

Practice area(s): Geriatrics Management Evaluation Clinic, Home Based Primary Care

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy teaching our future practitioners.

MARK APARICIO, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Managed Care Elective

Pharmacy school: University of CA San Diego - Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Fresno, CA

Practice area(s): Pharmacoeconomics, Formulary Management

What makes you interested in precepting? Precepting is a rewarding and mutually beneficial practice that serves to strengthen the future of pharmacy practice, but also forces the preceptor to keep themselves sharp and up to date. Playing a part in that process becomes a win-win in terms of experiences gained.

KATE BASTIAN, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Practice Management

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: VA over 10 years

Practice area(s): Associate Chief, Inpatient Pharmacy Service

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy having the opportunity to give back, and help teach and mentor our residents.

KAMALJIT BHANGOO, PharmD, BCACP, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Anticoagulation Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: Western University of Health sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: Retail five years (pharmacy manager at Walgreens), VA over eight years

Practice area(s): Anticoagulation

What makes you interested in precepting? For me, precepting residents is a way to pay forward opportunities that I was given. Being a mentor, I can help them get a glimpse into the real world of pharmacy, and help them hone their skills to become well-prepared, proficient pharmacists in the future. I also get to learn from them while teaching what I know. It is a very fulfilling part of my job.

BRETT BORBA, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Managed Care Elective

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGYI Pharmacy Residency at St. Joseph's Medical Center, CA; retail nine years, VA over 11 years

Practice area(s): Managed Care and Smoking Cessation

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy being able to give residents a behind the curtain look at how VA Pharmacy is uniquely structured in order for us to provide optimal care for our Veterans.

JOHN CHANG, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Acute Care Internal Medicine (General Medicine)

Pharmacy school: Loma Linda University, School of Pharmacy, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Desert Regional Medical Center, CA

Practice area(s): Internal Medicine

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy teaching, collaborating with, and watching residents develop and become confident in acute care medicine.

DAVID CHARLESTHAM, PharmD, BCPP

Learning experience(s): Psychiatric Acute Care Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care (Benzodiazepine Taper and Clozapine)
Pharmacy school: Belmont University College of Pharmacy, TN
Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Winchester Medical Center, VA; PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at VA Loma Linda, CA
Practice area(s): Inpatient Acute Care Psychiatry and Ambulatory Care Mental Health Clinic
What makes you interested in precepting? Throughout my own past experiences, I have trained with many caring, knowledgeable, and inspirational preceptors. I appreciate the opportunity to share this training with the next generation of pharmacy professionals.

CINDY DUNCAN, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Psychiatric Ambulatory Care/Substance Use Disorder Program Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care
Pharmacy school: Washington State University, College of Pharmacy
Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Fresno, CA
Practice area(s): Mental Health
What makes you interested in precepting? Precepting is a great way to share my experience/knowledge while also getting to know the residents better.

WILLIE EIRICH, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Anticoagulation Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care
Pharmacy school: Loma Linda University, School of Pharmacy, CA
Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Fresno, CA
Practice area(s): Anticoagulation Clinic
What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy seeing other people learn.

KRISTINE LOWE, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Inpatient Pharmacy/IV Orientation, Staffing (Inpatient)
Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA
Postgraduate training/experience: Retail 13 years, outpatient VA, inpatient VA
Practice area(s): Hospital Operations
What makes you interested in precepting? Being in their shoes once before, I would like to pay it forward and help the future of our field, as preceptors have helped me before.

JON MALEPSY, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Infectious Diseases Elective
Pharmacy school: University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, MN
Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency and PGY2 Infectious Diseases Residency at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, MN
Practice area(s): Infectious Diseases, Antimicrobial Stewardship, HIV
What makes you interested in precepting? I like seeing residents grow in their knowledge and clinical skills as they go through my rotation. I feel as if I become a better ID pharmacist through teaching because of the challenging questions that residents often ask. Teaching helps me to think more deeply about what I know and what I still need to learn. I also like to educate future practicing pharmacists on the optimal use of antibiotics because I feel as if it will translate into more intelligent use of these drugs and help fight against antibiotic resistance.

KORI E. MALEPSY, PharmD, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Longitudinal Project Management and Leadership Development
Pharmacy school: University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, MN
Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Minneapolis VA, MN; PGY2 Health System Pharmacy Administration Residency at VA Palo Alto, CA
Practice area(s): Program Manager for Residency, Student Education, and Medication Safety; Pulmonary Clinic
What makes you interested in precepting? Having the opportunity to shape and share meaningful experiences with trainees, seeing their growth while also learning from them, and contributing to the future of the profession – it is what I love about my job!

BRUCE MANZO, PharmD, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Academic Detailing Elective

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Parkview Health Systems, IN

Practice area(s): Academic Detailing and Pulmonary Clinic

What makes you interested in precepting? While I enjoy passing my experience and knowledge to new residents, I really appreciate the insight and challenges associated with each person I meet. Teaching encourages me to stay on top of all of my administrative and clinical skills. I also feel proud of the accomplishments of each resident in their post-residency careers.

JEFFREY MCCAMISH, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Pain Management Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: University of Southern California School of Pharmacy, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: DEA certification to prescribe schedule III narcotics, prescribing non-opioid medications for pain under SOP, prescribing naloxone as part of risk mitigation

Practice area(s): Chronic Pain Management

What makes you interested in precepting? Provide background in pharmacist role in pain management as part of an interdisciplinary team.

SHANNON MONDRY, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Psychiatric Ambulatory Care/Substance Use Disorder Program Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: Long Island University, Brooklyn NY

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY; PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at VA Loma Linda, CA

Practice area(s): Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders

What makes you interested in precepting? I have always had a passion to teach, a fulfilling part of my career, contributing to the experience and education of students/residents for their success in the pharmacy profession.

MARK MYERS, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Ambulatory Care (Primary Care/Women's Health); Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy, TX

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Black Hills, Ft. Meade, SD

Practice area(s): PACT Pharmacist for the Oakhurst CBOC and the Women's Health clinic

What makes you interested in precepting? I have sought opportunities to be involved in teaching at multiple points in my life (teaching English in China, intelligence briefer in the US Navy). I very much enjoy interacting with professionals who are eager to learn, but mostly I value and appreciate the fact that it enables me to continue learning and stay current as well.

NADER NASSAR, PharmD, BCPP

Learning experience(s): Psychiatric Ambulatory Care/Substance Use Disorder Program Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: Regis University College of Pharmacy, CO

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission, KS

Practice area(s): Mental Health

What makes you interested in precepting? Seeing the residents grow throughout the year and develop their own practice.

DAVID NGUYEN, PharmD, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Pharmacy Informatics Elective

Pharmacy school: Regis University School of Pharmacy, CO

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at SSM St. Mary's Hospital, MO; Willow Inpatient Epic Certification

Practice area(s): Clinical Pharmacy Informaticist

What makes you interested in precepting? I want to promote the advancement of pharmacy practice for our future pharmacists. I want to show them there are other ways of impacting and promoting safe patient care through information technology.

ADAM SALEH, PharmD, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Emergency Medicine Elective

Pharmacy school: University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, NY

Postgraduate training/experience: Internal Medicine, Critical Care, Inpatient Pharmacy

Practice area(s): Acute Care/Emergency Medicine

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy interacting with the residents and helping them make connections between what they learned in school and real-life practice.

BETH SERRANO (CURCIN), PharmD

Learning experience(s): Ambulatory Care (Primary Care); Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: Loma Linda University, School of Pharmacy, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Residency at VA Fresno, CA

Practice area(s): Primary Care

What makes you interested in precepting? Precepting allows me the opportunity to give back to the field. It's rewarding to see a resident's knowledge and confidence grow throughout rotations.

JENNIFER SIILATA, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Ambulatory Care (Primary Care); Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: Internal Medicine, Heart Failure Clinic, Hepatitis C Clinic, Wound/Ostomy Care

Practice area(s): Primary Care

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy teaching residents. I enjoy learning from them as well. There is so much more to patient care than what is taught in school and I strive to give residents the opportunity to develop those skills using their individual gifts/talents.

CHEREE SOSIN, PharmD, BCPS

Learning experience(s): Ambulatory Care (Primary Care); Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: University of California, San Francisco School of Pharmacy, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Clovis Community Medical Center, CA

Practice area(s): Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Primary Care

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy the challenge of precepting and model my precepting after a great mentor I had. He would say, "A good pharmacist knows the guidelines, but a great pharmacist knows why the guidelines say what they do" as he dove into primary literature.

HONGKONG TRAN, PharmD

Learning experience(s): Hematology/Oncology Elective; Longitudinal Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy school: Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy

Postgraduate training/experience: PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Fresno, CA

Practice area(s): Hematology/Oncology Clinic

What makes you interested in precepting? Precepting allows me to share with residents the invaluable knowledge that I was privileged to gain during my own residency experience. The unique experience of caring for cancer patients allows residents to learn empathy while demonstrating clinical knowledge in the field. It is rewarding to assist residents in their pharmacy journey and to see their growth over the course of the rotation.

BARBARA VAN MATER, PharmD

Learning experiences: Acute Care Internal Medicine (ICU)

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: Poison Control; Pain Specialist, CRMC; Oncology, CRMC; Hospice Compounding Medicine; Home Health IV Service, CRMC; Internal Medicine, CRMC; Community Pharmacy, Walmart; Administration as Chief of Pharmacy, Dinuba/Reedley Hospitals and Miami VAHS, Outpatient Manager; Internal Medicine, VACCHCS

Practice area(s): Critical Care

What makes you interested in precepting? I love to share my knowledge with the residents so they may become well-rounded practitioners that can work independently with confidence in their own practice.

NORA YANG, PharmD

Learning experiences: Outpatient Pharmacy Orientation

Pharmacy school: University of the Pacific – Thomas J. School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, CA

Postgraduate training/experience: Administration

Practice area(s): Associate Chief, Outpatient Pharmacy Operations (Administration)

What makes you interested in precepting? I enjoy watching residents grow throughout the year and making a difference in their lives. I like to empower residents to reach their full potential and to watch them grow to become super clinicians. Each resident has unique learning capabilities. As a preceptor, one has to adapt to the resident's learning style. Precepting teaches me patience along with improving my listening and communication skills. I also enjoy learning from the residents as well.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

RESIDENCY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Kori E. Malepsy, PharmD, BCPS

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director

Medication Safety Pharmacist

Kori.Malepsy@va.gov

(559) 241-6490

David Charlesthram, PharmD, BCPP

Residency Program Coordinator

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Mental Health

David.Charlesthram@va.gov

(559) 225-6100 ext. 4883

Nader Nassar, PharmD, BCPP

Residency Program Coordinator

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Mental Health

Nader.Nassar@va.gov

(559) 225-6100 ext. 5134

CURRENT 2023 - 2023 RESIDENTS

Tommy Tang, PharmD

Tommy.Tang2@va.gov

(559) 225-6100 ext. 6342

Robert Yang, PharmD

Robert.Yang3@va.gov

(559) 225-6100 ext. 4813



2023 RESIDENCY VIRTUAL AND LIVE SHOWCASE INFORMATION

Visit the VACCHCS PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program at the CSHP Seminar or ASHP Midyear conferences, or at one of its virtual showcases!

CSHP SEMINAR RESIDENCY SHOWCASE

Fri, Oct 13
1:30 – 6:00 PM PT

Information available at:
<https://www.cshp.org/page/Seminar2023>

FEDERAL PHARMACY RESIDENCY SHOWCASE

Virtual via Teams
Wed, Oct 18, 3:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Thur, Oct 19, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM PT

Information available at:
[https://www.pbm.va.gov/education/VA
PharmacyResidencyProgram.asp](https://www.pbm.va.gov/education/VA%20PharmacyResidencyProgram.asp)

ASHP MIDYEAR RESIDENCY SHOWCASE

Tues, Oct 5
8:00 – 11:00 AM PT
at Booth 5093

Information available at:
<https://midyear.ashp.org/>

ACCP/SNPhA RESIDENCY SHOWCASE

Virtual via Teams
Tues, Oct 24
5:00 – 6:00 PM PT

Information available at:
[https://www.accp.com/meetings/vrfs23/
index.aspx](https://www.accp.com/meetings/vrfs23/index.aspx)

VA Central California Health Care System
Pharmacy Service (119)
2615 E. Clinton Ave
Fresno, CA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**